Phil Apl 26 1860

My dear Friend

I have been absent much from this city since having seen last welcome Letter. Howland & Preston were with me during their Easter vacation - and returned last week leaving me lonely again. In my last you had the news of the sudden death of My Sister Dolly's father in law Dr R - to be followed so soon by the death of her

infant, a double
sense shock - but she
bears up under the
trouble with remarkable
resignation, She feels
her affliction more
sensibly now, from
my late Aunt's departure
for Europe. The house
next door is now
occupied by Strangers
and Brooklyn seems
like another place
to Dolly. Mr & Mrs B
sailed in the "Asia"
earlier than they at
first proposed, we
have letters on their
arrival in Liverpool,

having had a moderate passage with the usual quantity of Sea Sickness and other discomforts. The next day they were to leave for Alexandria Mr B-'s family accompanying them about a year or more & will probably visit Jerusalem and other parts of the East, I do not doubt a pleasant time is in store for them and they will return in improved health.

I should like to have
started for the same
trip, but my children
and other influences
would hardly allow
me at this time,
my boys are both
ill and impressed
I think, I miss their
companionship so
much, and would be
happier if with me,
as it is I feel con-
strained to keep within
hailing distance almost
The little fellows are
looking eagerly forward
to the good time coming

26/4/1805

as Pressy says. The
Monument for my
dear Wife at St James
the Less is about finished,
a simple white marble
Cross - in all 9 ft. feet
high in beautiful
proportion & in keeping
with the purity and
Simplicity of her
character, It would
suit you admirably
I think and I should
like you & Ham suggested
a few words for an
inscription. for I know
of
one who could do
it so with true feeling
than her dear friend

Deborah Watson,

Jan give me an interesting mention of Jam Mrs Lewis seeing the world in & about Boston, The rolling over the bank in the tail car was a very dangerous affair & it is wonderful she escaped even injury,

Jam trip to Bedford was pleasant no doubt, I am anxious to hear from you all about what you heard or saw of interest to me in that quarter, Recollections of my

old home there comes often before me, but tempered with much sadness. Dear Ella is pictured to my mind frequently and happily amidst old scenes there, which I cherish. tho' I've no desire to visit N.S. for I shall at Richibucto I suppose, how is he, I have a warm regard for him, we were wide apart in political & some other points. but on the whole we were friends and had a good opinion of

each other, whenever you write or see him, present my kindest regards. Did you hear any thing about Aunt Lydia. I have not the slightest news of her since we left New Bedford Mr Rice had a fine reception on his return there, Parents with a valuable silver tea service and other substantial tokens of esteem from his old parishioners. You saw notice of it in

the Mercury perhaps.
Hee wrote me an account
of the proceedings, and
says his new parish
in N Jersey is all
satisfactory. I fear
my letters dyn are
not what they should
be — indeed I know
they cannot compare
favorably with yours,
for your ability to
produce & form what
is needed to make
a pleasant correspon-
dence, is so far beyond
my poor talents! I take
the liberty of and add
a cherished friend however,

and write freely to you without regard to style or composition, just as if I were talking. Life seems so hurried to most men of business, that it is difficult to keep such matters out of social letters, and I feel grateful that you should spare me the time in giving me your pleasant letters, when I can send such poor returns in the whirl & turmoil of business & other occupation I try to

forget old grips - but
it seems impossible,
for when I go home
by name only I miss
what has been so dear
to my happiness. the
full value of which
I never realized until
now I have lost her,
and shall never know
again in this life.
I am stopping with
my brother John & Mother
for the present. My
Mother has returned from
Brooklyn. having been
absent from this city
most a month. She is
quite well & shews

but few signs of
weakness in her old
age. My brother Thomas
is well satisfied in his
new home, all are
well there save the
little invalid and she
will soon be much
better I think. My
family all bear you
in kindest remembrance
and often speak of
you. I am not yet
committed in my plans
for the future. I hope
to have the pleasure
of seeing you before
a very long time, and
in the meantime anticipate
to get your pleasant
letters, we are having
a touch of winter weather
to day. Sincerely your
friend
L. R. Mead

Mrs. A. G. 2, 30, 40